



Maryland Laws & Regulations Summary

Regulations for this jurisdiction last reviewed on 07/16/2010

General Regulations

Age to Consume	21 <i>Last validated on 2/21/2008 9:30:09AM, last updated on 1/20/2005 2:43:22PM</i>
Age to Pour	State law is 21, but counties may have different law. <i>Last validated on 2/21/2008 9:30:12AM, last updated on 7/25/2006 8:38:17AM</i>
Age to Sell	State law is 21, but counties may have different law. <i>Last validated on 2/21/2008 9:30:17AM, last updated on 7/25/2006 8:38:27AM</i>
Notes on Server/Seller Training Regulations	Maryland approves server and seller training programs used in the state. Servers and sellers must re-certify every four years. A permit is required for training in Maryland, or training participants who serve or sell alcoholic beverages in Maryland, regardless of where the training takes place. Trainers must renew this permit annually on October 31. Each county determines by ordinance how many employees must be trained in a server training program in order to renew or apply for a new license. The holder of a Statewide Caterer's (SCAT) license shall have at least one individual on-site during a catered event that has been certified by an alcohol awareness program licensed by the State Comptroller's Office. Major changes to Maryland training regulations were implemented on March 1, 2007. Changes include the following: Participants must present a government-issued photo ID and trainers must check it. Recording of information from the ID is not required. Participants without a valid ID, or participants who use a name different than the one shown on the ID may not be trained. It is essential that participants use the address where they work on their exam answer sheets, regardless of where they live or where the session is conducted. Sessions that include more than one jurisdiction cannot be correctly processed if Maryland participants are involved Sessions must arrive at HCI within 10 calendar days of the date of the session. Sessions not arriving within the 10-day period will be rejected. Sessions must be processed within 30 calendar days of the date of the session. If a session is put on hold the issue(s) must be resolved within 30 days of the session date or it will be rejected. Minimum session times for approved programs in Maryland (On Premise, Off Premise, Concessions) will be 3 hours. Sessions less than 3 hours in length will be rejected. Trainer compliance with all applicable laws, regulations, and TIPS policies relating to Maryland training will be strictly enforced. <i>Last validated and updated on 7/16/2010 3:00:01PM</i>
DUI and DWI Limit Under 21	.00It is illegal for an individual under 21 years of age to consume an alcoholic beverage. <i>Last validated and updated on 2/12/2010 4:33:08PM</i>
Age to Serve	State law is 21, but counties may have different law. <i>Last validated on 2/21/2008 9:30:20AM, last updated on 7/25/2006 8:38:52AM</i>
DUI and DWI Limit	.08; Driving While Impaired .07 <i>Last validated on 2/21/2008 9:30:32AM, last updated on 1/20/2005 2:47:08PM</i>
Number of Drinks at One Time	Not Regulated <i>Last validated on 2/21/2008 9:31:02AM, last updated on 1/20/2005 2:47:57PM</i>
Dram Shop Liability Laws	No <i>Last validated on 2/21/2008 9:31:09AM, last updated on 1/20/2005 2:48:14PM</i>
Notes on Liability Laws	Information is not available at this time. <i>Last validated on 2/21/2008 9:31:22AM, last updated on 5/23/2005 9:32:12AM</i>
Corkage/Merlot Laws	Maryland law allows customers to remove partially consumed bottles of wine provided the wine was consumed with a meal purchased at the restaurant, is recorked, and is transported in the trunk or other area of the car not normally occupied by people. <i>Last validated and updated on 7/28/2008 9:56:12AM</i>



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Notes on Selling and/or Serving	Legal age to pour alcohol is 18 for beer and wine licenses; 21 for beer, wine, and liquor licenses, unless otherwise regulated by city or county. Legal age to sell alcohol is 18 for beer and light wine, 21 for Class D licensed establishments, unless otherwise regulated by city or county. Legal age to serve alcohol is 18 for beer and wine licenses; 21 for beer, wine, and liquor licenses, unless otherwise regulated by city or county. <i>Last validated on 2/21/2008 9:30:25AM, last updated on 1/26/2006 11:34:09AM</i>
Social Host Liability Laws	Yes. A Social Host law became effective October 1, 2009. <i>Last validated and updated on 10/6/2009 1:54:31PM</i>
Server Training Regulated	Yes <i>Last validated on 2/21/2008 9:31:33AM, last updated on 1/20/2005 2:48:55PM</i>
Maximum Alcohol per Drink	Varies by city and county; generally not more than 2 oz. per drink; however this is not regulated by the state. <i>Last validated on 2/21/2008 9:30:50AM, last updated on 7/6/2005 8:50:34AM</i>
Seller Training Regulated	Yes. <i>Last validated on 2/21/2008 9:31:46AM, last updated on 12/19/2006 2:28:36PM</i>

Hours of Sale

Off Premise	Retail Stores: Monday through Saturday, 6:00 a.m. until 12:00 midnight. Sunday hours are determined by local jurisdictions. <i>Last validated and updated on 12/16/2009 10:33:50AM</i>
On Premise	On-Premise Establishments (may be regulated by county): Monday through Sunday, 6:00 a.m. until midnight. Exceptions: Beer, wine, and liquor Class B (hotels/restaurants) Beer, wine and Liquor Class C (clubs) 6:00AM until 2:00AM the following day. <i>Last validated and updated on 12/16/2009 10:33:01AM</i>

ID's/Underage Persons

ID Confiscation Allowed	Licensees in Maryland have no legal authority to confiscate false ID's; however the Local Liquor Control Boards and the State Police do have the authority if fraud is suspected. <i>Last validated on 2/21/2008 9:32:22AM, last updated on 7/6/2005 8:54:25AM</i>
Notes on ID Confiscation	Licensees in Maryland have no legal authority to confiscate false ID's. <i>Last validated on 2/21/2008 9:32:32AM, last updated on 2/11/2004 2:44:14PM</i>
Acceptable Forms of ID	Any state driver's license with photo, or military ID, or US passport or passport card, or state-issued ID card with photo. Retailers may use their discretion when fraud is suspected. <i>Last validated and updated on 2/18/2010 4:35:55PM</i>
Policies Regarding Underage Persons	It is unlawful to serve or sell alcohol to anyone under the age of 21. Minors are permitted in restaurants which serve alcohol. <i>Last validated on 2/21/2008 9:32:26AM, last updated on 2/11/2004 2:44:14PM</i>
Recommended age for carding	Not regulated by state statute. <i>Last validated on 2/21/2008 9:32:19AM, last updated on 7/6/2005 8:54:48AM</i>

Liability and Legal Info

Happy Hour Laws	"Two for One" specials are allowed, but "Buy One Get One Free" specials are not allowed. <i>Last validated on 2/21/2008 9:33:06AM, last updated on 7/24/2007 1:03:38PM</i>
Statute of Limitations	Information is not available at this time. <i>Last validated on 2/21/2008 9:33:02AM, last updated on 2/12/2007 1:54:03PM</i>
Non-alcoholic beer and wine	None <i>Last validated on 2/21/2008 9:32:53AM, last updated on 2/11/2004 2:44:14PM</i>



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Liquor Liability

Penalties for violations with regard to the sale or service of alcohol vary by city or county. In most Maryland jurisdictions, local licensing boards may fine, suspend or revoke an alcoholic beverage license for violations of its rules and regulations or state statutes. In several jurisdictions, fine progression severely increases for successive violations of the same regulations or statutes. Local boards regulate license holders. Individuals, depending upon the nature of the violation, may be charged criminally for certain alcoholic beverage violations.

Last validated on 2/21/2008 9:32:58AM, last updated on 2/11/2004 2:44:14PM

Interior/Exterior Signage

Displays

Personalized signage allowed only be Beer licenses. Signs are additionally covered by local and county regulations.

Last validated and updated on 7/28/2008 9:57:26AM

Point of Sale (POS) Advertising

Wine and Distilled Spirits Products: Signs bearing advertising matter may be given to a retailer by a brand owner for use in the retail establishment if: 1. Total value of any item furnished by any brand owner does not exceed \$150 for each individual brand at any one retail establishment. 2. Cost of installation per item does not exceed what is usual and customary for that locality. 3. The utilitarian value is secondary and only incidental to the value as an advertisement. Total cost of advertising items for brand owner may not exceed \$450 by a brand owner. In lieu of per-manufactured advertising material, materials and labor may be furnished by the brand owner for the custom manufacture of an advertising display if it does not exceed \$150; provided it's temporary in nature and has no other utilitarian value. Umbrellas are not permitted. Advertising may not be personalized for a particular licensed retailer. Brewed Products: Malt beverage signs, manufactured by a beer wholesaler and furnished to a retail licensee, may not exceed \$50 in value. Except as stated, a brewer, nonresident dealer, or beer wholesaler may not furnish any sign over \$150 in value to the holder of any retail license. Umbrellas may be furnished, but not more than six (6) of any one brand, and a maximum of twelve (12) of beer only. Advertising may be personalized if it contains brand identifiable advertising that is prominent, permanent, and equal to the life and value of the utilitarian character. The brand identification must be equal to or greater than the personalized portion of the advertisement but in no case shall the brand identification constitute less than 1/3 of the total area of the advertisement.

Last validated and updated on 12/16/2009 12:03:05PM

Tastings

Consumer Tastings - On Premise

Tastings may be conducted by independent research agencies for market survey or analysis purposes on non-licensed premises with prior notice and 14 day prior approval. Tastings may also be conducted by supplier or licensed wholesaler for non-alcoholic beverages on licensed retail premises if tasting is spontaneous and not announced in advance to the licensed retailer or public at large.

Last validated on 2/21/2008 9:33:29AM, last updated on 7/6/2005 9:09:51AM

Consumer Tastings - Off Premise

Tastings may be conducted by independent research agencies for market survey or analysis purposes on non-licensed premises with prior notice and 14 day prior approval. Tastings may also be conducted by supplier or licensed wholesaler for non-alcoholic beverages on licensed retail premises if tasting is spontaneous and not announced in advance to the licensed retailer or public at large.

Last validated and updated on 10/29/2009 1:55:41PM

Staff Training Tastings

Not allowed.

Last validated on 2/21/2008 9:33:36AM, last updated on 7/25/2006 8:41:21AM

Promo Items



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Promo Items to Retailer

Advertising or promotional materials (such as paper cups, matches, brochures, leaflets, circulars, napkins, placemats, calendars, trays, coasters, mats, etc.) may be furnished to retailers in trivial quantities without retailer name or logo, item may not relieve ordinary business expense. Materials may exceed trivial quantities if sold no lower than fair market value and documentation maintained. Hats, towels, t-shirts, glassware, etc. must be sold to retailers at fair market value or higher. Alcohol beverage list may be sold to retailers at fair market value. Generic shelf Management including schematics, shelf stocking and rotation and dusting shelves, and set-up of advertising displays may be furnished to retailers. Samples may be furnished to retailers. A supplier may participate in or sponsor on-premise brand-owner promotions.

Last validated and updated on 7/28/2008 9:58:03AM

Promo items to Consumers

A representative or agent of a supplier or licensed wholesaler may conduct unannounced promotions where trivial quantities of nominal advertising items such as matches, pencils, buttons, can openers, recipes, pamphlets, and non-apparel items may be provided to consumers. For a planned promotion, items such as t-shirts, hats, keychains, etc., with a value of less than \$10.00 may be provided to consumers by suppliers or their agents.

Last validated and updated on 7/16/2010 3:04:26PM

Solicitor Permit

Solicitor Permit

Solicitor permits are required. Montgomery County has its own solicitor permit, which must be obtained in addition to the state solicitor permit.

Last validated and updated on 7/16/2010 3:05:21PM

Coupons

Cents off coupons

Cents off coupons not redeemable at retailers, but mail-in coupons are allowed.

Last validated on 2/21/2008 9:34:14AM, last updated on 11/18/2004 10:44:53AM

Refund coupons

Mail in refund coupons are allowed. Coupons must be provided at point of purchase, direct mail, print media, or downloading/printing from portable data file on internet. If supplier sponsored, wholesaler and retailer may not participate other than advertising and providing application forms and coupon books for retail display; value not exceed price to wholesaler. Expiration date and 21 years of age requirement must be included on coupon; redemption requires proof of purchase, records required. Multiple coupon offers permitted, submit questionable coupon offers to ATTB. Refund coupons are not redeemable at retailers.

Last validated and updated on 7/28/2008 9:59:07AM

Contact Information

Contact

Motor Fuel, Alcohol and Tobacco Tax Regulatory Division
80 Calvert Street
Annapolis, MD 21404
See supplement for listing of local licensing boards.

Last validated and updated on 12/16/2009 10:31:13AM

Phone

Alcohol and Tax Bureau: 410-260-7388. See supplement for listing of local licensing boards.

Last validated and updated on 7/16/2010 3:05:48PM

Email address

att@comp.state.md.us

See supplement for listing of local licensing boards.

Last validated on 2/21/2008 9:34:38AM, last updated on 5/2/2007 10:26:14AM

Web URL Address

http://compnet.comp.state.md.us/MATT_Regulatory_Division/

Last validated on 2/21/2008 9:34:47AM, last updated on 8/29/2007 10:36:32AM

eTIPS Off Premise

What are the legal hours of sale for alcohol in my state?

Retail Stores: Monday through Saturday, 6:00 a.m. until 12:00 midnight. Sunday hours are determined by local jurisdictions.

Last validated and updated on 12/16/2009 2:33:29PM



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Does my state authorize me to confiscate IDs from customers?

Licensees in Maryland have no legal authority to confiscate false IDs.

Last validated and updated on 3/1/2010 3:31:52PM

What is the DUI and/or DWI legal limit in my state?

.08; Driving While Impaired .07

Last validated and updated on 1/20/2005 2:47:08PM

Does my state have Dram Shop Laws?

No

Last validated and updated on 1/20/2005 2:48:14PM

What is the legal age to consume and/or purchase alcohol in my state?

21

Last validated and updated on 1/20/2005 2:43:22PM

What is the legal age to sell alcohol in my state?

State law is 21, but counties may have different law.

Last validated and updated on 7/25/2006 8:38:27AM

Does my state regulate seller training, and if so, what do I need to know about those regulations?

Yes. eTIPS is not currently approved.

Last validated and updated on 12/22/2009 8:58:17AM

This information has been provided to us by the regulating agency and is believed to be correct. However, laws and regulations may change at any time, and the information provided should not be relied upon in place of official documents. For more information or clarification, consult the regulatory body for this jurisdiction directly.